

Docket No.: 60094-0012

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

I. SPECIFICATION

In the specification, the paragraphs [0026], [0030], [0032], [0038], and [0039] have been amended to correct minor editorial problems.

II. STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-17 remain in this application. Claim 2 has been canceled. Claim 18 has been added. Claims 1, 5, 7, 12, and 14 have been amended.

III. OATH/DECLARATION

The Office Action has indicated that the oath or declaration is defective. Applicant will file a new oath or declaration with the information indicated by the Office Action.

IV. CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Office Action rejected Claims 1-17 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Applicant has amended Claims 1, 5, 7, 12, and 14 as indicated by the Office Action.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

V. CLAIM REJECTIONS 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Office Action rejected Claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 10, 12, 16, and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated anticipated by Würscher, et al.

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The rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is deemed moot in view of Applicant's amendment of Claim 1, incorporating the elements of Claim 2 into Claim 1. The Office Action states that Claim 2 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in the Office Action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 1 is allowable. Claims 3, 4, 7, 10, 12, 16, and 17, are dependent upon independent Claim 1. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b).

VI. CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Office Action rejected Claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Würscher, et al.

The rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is deemed moot in view of Applicant's comments regarding Claim 1, above. Claim 14 is dependent upon independent Claim 1. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

VII. CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Office Action rejected Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brevick, cited in Applicant's IDS, in view of Longly, et al.

The rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is deemed moot in view of Applicant's comments regarding Claim 1, above. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 17 are dependent upon independent Claim 1. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

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VIII. CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Office Action rejected Claims 5, 8, and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brevick, cited in Applicant's IDS, in view of Longly, et al., and further in view of Brown.

The rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is deemed moot in view of Applicant's comments regarding Claim 1, above. Claims 5, 8, and 9 are dependent upon independent Claim 1. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

IX. ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Office Action states that Claims 2 and 11 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in the Office Action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has amended Claim 1 to include the elements of Claim 2. Claim 18 has been added and includes the elements of Claims 1, 10, and 11. Therefore, Claims 1 and 18 are allowable.

X. MISCELLANEOUS

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

The Applicants believe that all issues raised in the Office Action have been addressed and that allowance of the pending claims is appropriate. Entry of the amendments herein and further examination on the merits are respectfully requested.

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The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (408) 414-1080 ext. 214 to discuss any issue that may advance prosecution.

No fee is believed to be due specifically in connection with this Reply. To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee that may be due in connection with this Reply to our Deposit Account No. 50-1302.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Fax No. 1 (571) 273-8300.

on January 4, 2006

By


Kirk D. Wong